



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

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Tight Republican race exposes liabilities



Romney (L), Santorum

LIVONIA (AFP) - A rich guy with a tin ear and a culture war extremist: Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum have reinforced these unflattering narratives as the battle for the Republican nomination heats up in Michigan.

Romney's problems connecting to working class voters hit the national media again after he told a reporter at the Daytona 500 Sunday that while he doesn't follow car racing closely, "I have some great friends who are NASCAR team owners."

It came a day after Romney told a crowd in hard-hit Detroit that his wife drives "a couple Cadillacs" -- costly luxury cars that are out of

reach for most Americans.

Santorum, meanwhile, took heat for calling President Barack Obama a "snob" because he wants everyone to go to college and for saying that watching beloved former president John F. Kennedy talk about the separation of church and state makes him want to "throw up."

The increasingly negative and gaffe-ridden race to become the Republican standard-bearer is providing ample fodder for Obama as he prepares for the November 6 election amid an improving economy and rising job approval ratings.

Continue on pg 2

The Aruba Summit on Gas and Petroleum... searching for a solution!

Several months ago, the Aruba Valero Refinery announced that they may close down their operations on Aruba on account of the exuberant price of crude which is making their operations here unprofitable.

Upon receiving this notification from Valero, the government of Aruba began intensive efforts to find a solution to prevent the closure of the refinery. The government has begun exploring every possible scenario to come up with a durable solution for Aruba's refinery. Trips were made to other countries in search of a solution. Parliamentarians headed to Venezuela and Colombia to explore what potential these countries have that could help save the Aruba refinery from closing down their operations here.

During their last visit to Colombia, the Prime Minister and Minister de Meza consulted with President Santos of Colombia and suggested we hold a Summit on petroleum and gas for top executives. This Summit was held here last Friday February 24th. Such a Summit organized in such a short span of time to try and find a solution for Aruba was a major undertaking.

Present at the Summit were, the Aruban Prime Minister, Minister Mike de Meza, representatives of Valero, Ecopetrol, Repsol, GasUnie and Anthony Veder. Several local and international advisers were also present. Among the advisers were Laurens Jan Binkhorst, former president of the Canary Islands Fernando Fernandez Martin, Dutch Counsel in Medellin Mr. Restrepo and Javier Hernandez from Curacao who for many years was director of the Curacao Refinery.

The different presentations were focused on the alliances we want to achieve on the matter of LNG and NG (Natural



Liquid Gas and Natural Gas),

on the exploration of gas and petroleum off the coast of Aruba and on an alliance between the government of Aruba, Valero and Ecopetrol with respect to the refinery of Aruba and the "project upgrader" for processing heavy crude from South America.

At the end of the program an agreement was formulated by the parties involved in which they stated that they will deliberately and conscientiously study all the possibilities for a cooperation and an alliance as was discussed during the Summit. This will be done in cooperation with the government of Aruba and to be completed in the shortest pos-

sible time period.

Executives of Ecopetrol paid a visit to the Vaelero Aruba Refinery where they received additional information. They requested certain documents of the refinery which Valero will supply shortly. This Summit, according to the government was successful in that they were able to sit down together at the table and discuss and deliberate on the different options and came up with a declaration as to how they will move forward.

Reportedly, the government of Aruba is continuing their efforts for finding a solution for the Aruba Valero Refinery's permanence on Aruba.



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Bon Bini Festival is tonight



The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place tonight at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminastraat. Bon Bini Festival is the only weekly folkloric event on the island. Come mingle with the locals and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

This week the festival will feature the traditional Aruba caha di orgel (Cylinder box) **Ban Baile**, typical folkloric music by **Tipico Arco Iris**, dance performance by **The Super Dancers**, trio performance by **Jacobs Family**, Poem declamation by **Laura**

Kock, soloist **Sharon Rose** and brass band TBS. The event will be hosted by Ryan Maduro.

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and traditional local arts and crafts on sale.

Arubus has regular busses from all hotels areas to Oranjestad Central Terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is \$2.30. The festival is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Entrance fee is \$3.

Come and experience a taste of our 'dushi' Aruba!

UNICEF to investigate the position of Children and Women on Aruba



UNICEF has recently presented the concept of the "State of the Aruban Child and Women" report. This report is expected to be completed and presented in the month of June. The government of Aruba has indicated that ... they are very pleased that they have the guidance of such a professional institution as UNICEF. We can now put emphasis on certain areas. We have made progress and are pleased with the guidance of UNICEF as we attempt to improve the position of children and women in our community."

After two years of hard work and a visit to UNICEF Holland, this resulted in Aruba becoming an official member of this international organization working for the benefit of our children. Aruba is now the 36th member of UNICEF in this region. The first project of UNICEF in Aruba is the investigation project dubbed, the "State of the Aruban Child and Women."

The primary objective of the investigation is to ascertain what exactly is the situation regarding our children

and women on Aruba. Despite the fact that UNICEF only contributes to countries receiving funds, Aruba was privileged to receive their collaboration.

Various stakeholders cooperated in the investigative process, namely, the government, schools, and various institutions working directly with children and women. According to the Minister of Social Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer, ...thanks to these organizations, we will have a relevant and important report for Aruba come June 2012.

Tight Republican race exposes liabilities

continued from pg 1

It has also pushed Romney into the murky culture war waters -- which could hurt Republican chances of winning over independents in the general election -- as he woos the party's conservative base.

If Romney is able to win a decisive victory in Michigan and Arizona on Tuesday -- and again next week when 10 states hold nominating contests on Super Tuesday -- he may have time to reset voter perceptions and shift back to center.

But with polls showing

that Santorum could pull off another win in Romney's home state of Michigan --- giving the former Pennsylvania senator critical momentum going into Super Tuesday -- the Republican primary could drag on until the August convention.

And with an unprecedented amount of money unleashed thanks to changes in campaign finance laws, Newt Gingrich and Ron Paul could continue to divide the electorate by staying in the race despite their low polling

numbers.

"In a three or four way race, the possibility of keeping Romney from a majority of the delegates raises the prospect of a brokered convention," said Michael Traugott, a political expert at the University of Michigan.

The Republican presidential hopefuls are focusing on divisive cultural and social issues because only about 10 percent of the electorate participates in primaries -- and social conservatives drive that vote, he said.



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Melony Maduro, Robert Koopman and Margareth Maduro are the winners of SETAR's Valentine's Day campaign



Recently, SETAR N.V. held its Valentine's Day Campaign. All clients who purchased a service (postpaid, fixed, Cable, internet or even payment of their bill) at SETAR between the period of February 6 -14, received a free ticket to participate in the Win with SETAR campaign. The winners were the following: Melony Maduro won a couple's massage at Tiera del Sol Spa; Margareth Maduro won the dinner for two at Gari & Wasabi and the Sunset Sail for two persons of Red Sail Sports was won by Robert Koopman. Photos show as Marketing executive is presenting two of the winners with their prizes.

Correction: Participation in Sunday's fundraising volleyball misquoted



Micelle Begin poses with her tournament's poster
THE MORNING NEWS apologizes for misquoting the donation required to participate in Michelle Begin, "Ms Canada" inaugural fundraising volleyball tournament on Sunday March 4. The donation is NOT \$100 per PERSON, but \$100 per TEAM, for an 8-player team.

Michelle has also informed us that Aruba's Minister of Social & Economic Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, an Aruban who spent her youth

growing up in Canada, is going to play on the Canadian team.

There are already 14 teams signed up, and Michelle is looking for 2 more 8-player teams to register.

All the funds raised will go to Ambiente Feliz, a home for the intellectually challenged.

It should be a fun, exciting day of fundraising at the La Cabana Beach this coming Sunday, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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AIG hosting workshops with Dushyant Savadia from Art of Living Foundation



The audience tries a simple exercise

AIG Assurances, which will soon be re-branded as Chartis, sponsored a return visit of Dushyant Savadia from the Art of Living Foundation, and a free workshop on Sudarshan Kriya Yogi breathing techniques, known as S.K.Y. this past Sunday, February 26

smoking while possessing a very aggressive personality, but was transformed completely through these courses and has since dedicated his life to the Foundation to bring this knowledge to people across the world.

The organization's pro-



Guru Dushyant encourages elation

with one of the largest volunteer bases in the world. The international headquarters is located in Bangalore, India. Globally, it operates as The Art of Living Foundation formed in 1989 in the United States and Germany. Since then, local centers have been established across the world. Other than expenses, AOL trustees donate their time and receive no formal remuneration, as all donations to the foundation go to finance their humanitarian projects. The proceeds from the sales of The Art of Living Publications and Ayurveda products

are also directed to social initiatives.

Yogi Dushyant explained how this stressful world promotes the increased production of cortisol, a naturally occurring steroid produced by the adrenal gland, which has its uses during certain phases of pregnancy, but generally suppresses the immune system and increases the release of sugars into the blood. According to AOL it can also impede focus and concentration and weaken relationships. Through the use of S.K.Y. breathing techniques, one can influence their emo-



tions, reduce the effects of stress and promote the production of plasma prolactin, which counteracts cortisol, thus promoting increased feelings of elation and energy.

Those attending were instructed in some simple exercises from which they report an immediate response. Next Art of Living session will be conducted from 7:00 to 10:30 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, 29th February and complete on Saturday, the 3rd March at Renaissance Suites. For further information regarding this course please call 562-4722 or 737-3743 or email them at aolaruba@gmail.com.

Rosalie Klein



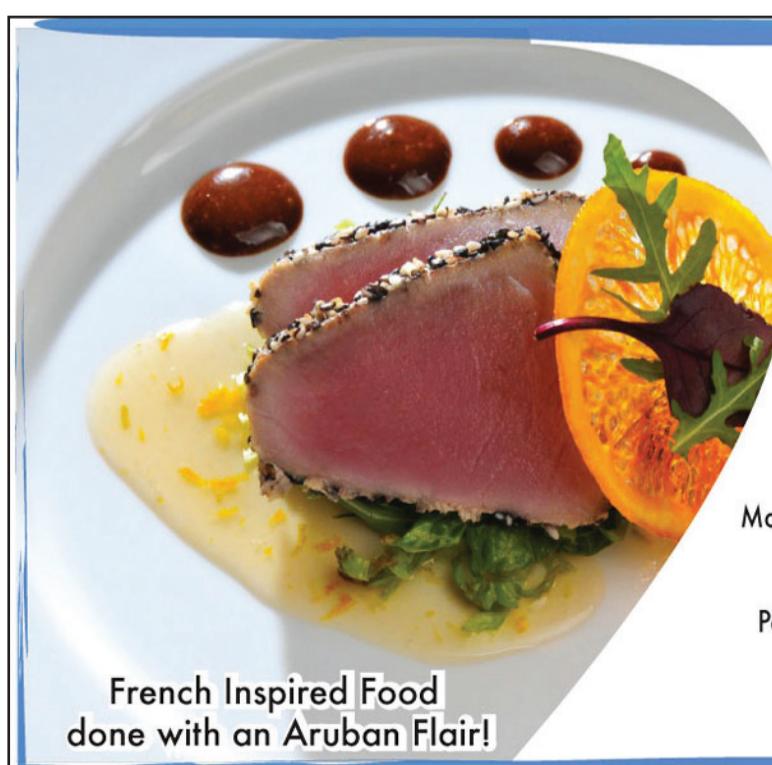
Guru Dushyant with Prakash and Niti Gupta

at the San Nicolas YMCA.

Mr. Dushyant comes from India and has been touring the region for the last couple of months, imparting what is considered "practical wisdom for improving the quality of life" through yoga techniques and S.K.Y. The Art of Living Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, which operates in 151 nations. Mr. Dushyant had been teaching Art of Living courses for the last 11 years and admits to once being addicted to alcohol and

grams are guided by Sri Sri's philosophy of peace: "Unless we have a stress-free mind and a violence-free society, we cannot achieve world Peace." To help individuals get rid of stress and experience inner peace, The Art of Living offers stress-elimination programs which include breathing techniques, meditation and yoga. These programs have helped millions around the world to overcome stress, depression and violent tendencies.

The Art of Living is a multi-faceted organization



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Bermuda shorts are back with Giorgio Armani in Milan



(AFP)--Bermuda shorts made a dramatic comeback at the Giorgio Armani catwalk show at Milan Fashion Week on Monday, which mixed modern cuts and vibrant colours with throwbacks to the 1920s.

"The look is rockabilly, reflecting a fun, bad-girl attitude," the Armani team said, but the brand's mix of masculine clothes with feminine coloured prints in oranges, fuchsias and reds received a mixed reaction in the audience.

The show kicked off with grey trouser suits topped off with fedora-style hats worn tilted with shiny flat shoes, giving the models a sexy gangster look.

Black bermudas were matched with shocking neon orange and pink blouses and shirts, and one which gathered loosely up around the neck like a flower bud and worn under a snug black velvet jacket, sparked a round of admiring applause.

There were faux fur light and loose-fitting coats with satin trim, loose satin skirts to the knee and black woollen roll-neck jumpers, as well as shrugs with electric blue lines and a peach dress covered in black swinging beads.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

Taliban bomber kills nine at Afghan NATO base

(AFP) - A Taliban suicide car bomber targeting NATO troops at an airport in eastern Afghanistan killed nine people on Monday, the seventh day of violence over the burning of the Koran at a US airbase.

The insurgents also said they were behind an attempt to poison foreign troops, as the death toll from unrest and protests that spread to even usually peaceful parts of the war-ravaged country hit about 40.

The UN announced that it was pulling its international staff out of their base in the northern Afghan province of Kunduz after it came under attack Saturday by demonstrators protesting the burning of the Koran.

The move came after NATO's International Security Assistance Force pulled all its staff out of Afghan ministries at the weekend when two US advisors were shot dead in the interior ministry, apparently by an Afghan colleague.

The Taliban said it was revenge for the Koran burning.

The hardliners also claimed that an "Afghan cook" working on their behalf poisoned the food of NATO troops at another base in the same province of Nangarhar.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) launched an investigation after "traces of bleach" were found in fruit and coffee, a spokesman said.

On Sunday, seven US soldiers were wounded in a grenade attack during an anti-US demonstration at their base in northern Kunduz province, police said.

The US embassy has been in lockdown since the violence erupted and has warned of a "heightened potential threat to American citizens in Afghanistan".

Afghan President Hamid Karzai appealed on television for calm, while condemning the treatment of Islam's holy book.

US President Barack Obama has apologised for the burning of the Korans, which officials said were inadvertently sent to the incinerator.

Foreign reporters remain trapped in Syria's Homs

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Efforts to evacuate foreign journalists from the rebel-held Baba Amr district of the flashpoint city of Homs failed on Monday, a Western diplomatic source in the Syrian capital said.

"The evacuation of journalists did not take place but three wounded Syrians were able to leave in Syrian Red Crescent ambulances," the source said.

A negotiator in the evacuation efforts said they fell through "at the last minute after ambulances had entered Baba Amr" but declined to specify if regime forces or rebels had blocked the operation.

An International Committee of the Red Cross spokesman in Geneva, meanwhile, said the ICRC and the Syrian Red Crescent were both operating in Homs.

"The Syrian Red Crescent volunteers entered Baba Amr to carry out the evacuation of persons who needed it and to

deliver medical assistance," the spokesman said.

The diplomat in Damascus, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AFP earlier that talks and preparations were taking place to rescue two wounded Western reporters trapped in the besieged Baba Amr district.

"It is extremely delicate and the process could be blocked at any moment," the diplomat said.

The ICRC has been negotiating to rescue the wounded Western journalists from Homs -- under assault by regime forces for more than three weeks -- and retrieve the bodies of two others killed there last week.

British photographer Paul Conroy and French reporter Edith Bouvier were wounded in the attack on Wednesday which claimed the lives of American war correspondent Marie Colvin and French photographer Remi Ochlik.

Ecuador leader pardons four in libel case

QUITO (AFP) - Ecuador's President Rafael Correa on Monday moved to defuse a simmering row over press freedoms, announcing a pardon of executives and a former editor of a prominent newspaper after a court levied jail sentences and a \$40 million fine.

"Although I know many do not want any concessions to those who do not deserve it, I decided... to forgive the accused, giving relief of the sentences that they deservedly received," Correa said following sharp criticism over the case by rights groups and press freedom advocates.

Groups have said the case against the daily El Universo was a worrying example of Correa using heavy-handed measures to silence his critics.

But Correa said on national television that the case "demonstrated that we can find and defeat the abuse of media power. We won because we were right and had truth on our side."



(AFP) - An Italian cruise ship from the same fleet as the tragedy-struck Costa Concordia was adrift in choppy seas off the Seychelles with more than 1,000 people on board following an engine room fire on Monday. Fire crews on board put out the blaze and no one was injured on the luxury ship, the Costa Allegra, but it was forced to make a mayday call seeking assistance from nearby cargo ships and there has been a power blackout. The Italian coast guard said the first vessel to come to the rescue, a 90-metre (295-foot) fishing trawler, was expected to arrive in the area at around midnight Italian time (2300 GMT). The trawler was not expected to evacuate any passengers but would help ensure radio contact as the Costa Allegra's communications equipment is currently relying on emergency batteries, the coast guard said. The much larger Costa Concordia, weighing more than 114,000 tons, crashed into the Italian island of Giglio last month with 4,229 people from 60 countries on board in a tragedy that claimed 32 lives.

Argentina blocks two British cruise ships

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Two British cruise ships that visited the Falkland Islands were refused entry to an Argentinian port on Monday, amid tension over the disputed archipelago.

The Adonia, owned by P&O cruises, and the Princess Cruises vessel Star Princess were both blocked from entering Ushuaia in southern Argentina after both ships stopped at the Falklands on week-end.

"We are very concerned to hear the Adonia and Star Princess have been refused access to the port of Ushuaia," said a spokesman for Britain's Foreign Office. "There can be no justification for interference in free and legitimate commerce. British diplomats in Argentina are urgently seeking to clarify the circumstances surrounding this incident, and we are in contact with the company concerned."

Tensions are running high between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands, which London controls but Buenos Aires claims, ahead of the 30th anniversary in April of the start of the war between the two nations over the islands.

Argentina has also reacted angrily to the deployment of Prince William to the Falklands as part of his job as a Royal Air Force search and rescue pilot, and to a planned fact-finding trip by British lawmakers next month.

Carnival UK, which owns both P&O and Princess Cruises, said in a statement the Adonia was now sailing towards Punta Arenas in Chile, its next port of call on an 87-night tour of South America.

The Star Princess was on a 14-night South America cruise which started in Rio de Janeiro on February 18.

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International News

The Sun had 'network of corrupt officials': police

LONDON (AFP) Journalists at The Sun had a "network of corrupted officials" who provided them with stories in return for cash payments, a top police officer said Monday.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Sue Akers told a public inquiry into press standards that the Rupert Murdoch-owned newspaper -- Britain's best-selling tabloid -- had a "culture" of paying police, the military, health workers, government and prison staff.

In a statement, Murdoch conceded that such payments had existed but insisted: "The practices Sue Akers described at the Leveson inquiry are ones of the past, and no longer exist at The Sun."

Akers is leading Scotland Yard's bribery investigation, which has seen 10 current or former Sun journalists arrested since November, as well as a serving police officer, a Ministry of Defence worker and an army officer.

Updating the inquiry on its progress, she said: "There ap-

pears to have been a culture at The Sun of illegal payments, and systems have been created to facilitate those payments whilst hiding the identity of the officials receiving the money."

Murdoch, who shut down the tabloid's sister paper the News of the World over a phone-hacking scandal last year, has pledged his support for the title, launching a Sunday version of The Sun at the

WikiLeaks publishes 'millions' of US intel firm emails

LONDON (AFP) - WikiLeaks on Monday began publishing a huge tranche of emails from US intelligence firm Stratfor in a move the anti-secrecy website said revealed the "private lies of private spies".

WikiLeaks claims over five million emails from the company will uncover "everything from sinister spy tactics to an insider trading scheme with

weekend. He insisted on Monday: "We have vowed to do everything we can to get to the bottom of prior wrongdoings in order to set us on the right path for the future. That process is well underway."

But embarrassing details continue to emerge from the Leveson inquiry, which was set up after the hacking row to look at how the British press operate.

Goldman Sachs" in the coming weeks.

Texas-based Stratfor, which describes itself as a "subscription-based provider of geopolitical analysis", denounced the theft of the emails as "a deplorable, unfortunate -- and illegal -- breach of privacy".

The first batch released Monday suggests that Dow Chemical, the parent company of the firm responsible for the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy, paid Stratfor to monitor campaigners for victims of the disaster, WikiLeaks claims.

The whistleblowing website said emails also indicate that Coca-Cola paid Stratfor to investigate animal rights group Peta.

WikiLeaks is sifting through the emails, dating from July 2004 to December 2011, with 25 media partners including Rolling Stone magazine and Italy's La Repubblica newspaper, while members of the public can also view the messages.

The emails document "the private lives and private lies of private spies," WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange said at a press conference in London.



SPAIN: This handout picture released on February 27, 2012 by the Spanish Ministry of Culture shows silver coins part of the cargo of the 19th-century Spanish warship the Nuestra Senora de las Mercedes. Tons of gold and silver from the wreck of the 19th-century Spanish warship arrived in Spain on February 25, 2012, more than 200 years after a British fleet sank it. The arrival of the cargo from the Nuestra Senora de las Mercedes sealed the end of a five-year legal battle between Spain and the US treasure hunters who hauled up the trove -- worth at least 350 million euros (\$470 million). AFP PHOTO

EU beefs up Syria sanctions

BRUSSELS (AFP) - EU foreign ministers slapped fresh sanctions on Syria, including a freeze on its central bank assets Monday, as France suggested the Syrian regime be dragged before an international court.

"We are doing all we can to bring the widest possible weight to bear on the Syrian regime and increase the stranglehold on it," said British Foreign Secretary William Hague.

Moves to further restrict the regime's access to finance were key, he added at talks with his 26 European Union counterparts.

Measures decided by the ministers also included an assets freeze and travel ban on seven Syrian ministers, whose identities will be issued today.

The EU has already blacklisted almost 150 Syrian entities and people.

Also among the new restrictive measures, the 12th round of EU sanctions so far against President Bashar al-Assad's regime, was a ban on trade in gold and precious metals.

Cargo flights to the EU operated by Syrians will not be allowed to land, but should they be carrying passengers they will be given access to EU nations.

"We will maintain the pressure" through more sanctions, said French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who slammed the regime's controversial weekend vote on a new constitution as "a sinister masquerade."

"It's disgraceful because at the same time bombs are falling on Homs and other cities," he said.

With more than 7,600 people killed in the regime's unrelenting violence against protesters, the French minister said he would plead for legal action against the regime at a meeting in Geneva of the UN Human Rights Council.

Juppe said he hoped to see the international community reflect on the conditions of a referral to the International Criminal Court.

"This is a difficult dossier," he said, adding that as Syria was not a party to the Rome convention establishing the court, the ICC could not initiate action itself so it would be up to the UN Security Council to refer the matter.

That in itself would be difficult due to the support offered there to Syria by China and Russia.

"These sanctions do show effect," said Austria's Michael Spindelegger.

Some nations had also urged a ban on phosphate exports from Syria as the EU accounts for 40 percent of those. But Greece, which is one of the main buyers, opposed the ban, sources said.

Nations doing extensive business with Syria also argued against full sanctions against the central bank, fearing that such measures would halt all trade and impact on the Syrian people.

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Health & Living

Patient dies after Turkey quadruple limb transplant

ANKARA (AFP) - A Turkish patient who underwent what was touted as the world's first quadruple limb transplant died on Monday due to complications, the hospital announced.

Fifty-two doctors from Ankara's Hacettepe University Hospital performed the transplant on Friday, attaching two arms and two legs to Sevket Cavdar.

But doctors had first removed one leg from the patient after his heart and vascular system failed to sustain the limb and then the other leg and two arms.

The patient, who was in the intensive care unit after the removal of the limb, died at

1720 GMT due to "metabolic imbalance which seriously threatened his life," said the hospital in a statement.

"We are in deep sorrow of losing our patient despite the ceaseless efforts of nearly 200 doctors and health personnel for about 90 hours," it added.

The operation came on the heels of the country's first-ever face transplant at another Turkish university hospital.

Last month, a team of doctors at Akdeniz University in the southern city of Antalya successfully performed the operation on a 19-year-old boy whose face was burned when he was a 40-day-old baby.

Health Tip: Avoid the Flu During Travel

-- Plane or bus travel is a prime way to pick up or spread the flu. Here are some steps you can take to help avoid getting others sick or getting sick yourself.

- Get a flu shot before you travel.
- Pack a kit of hand sanitizer, soap, tissues and pain relievers.
- Don't travel if you don't feel well or suspect you might have the flu.
- Cover your mouth and nose if you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue, rather than your hands.
- Wash your hands frequently with water and soap.
- Stay away from people who are sick. Try not to touch your mouth, eyes or nose.

Mirrors ease Cambodian amputees' phantom pain



Cambodian amputees during a mirror therapy session.

PHNOM PENH (AFP) Pov Sopheak lost his left leg in a landmine blast in 1990. Yet some nights the pain in his "left foot" is so bad he cannot sleep. Like many amputees, he suffers from phantom pain.

Now, after two decades of agony, the Cambodian is embracing an innovative technique that promises relief simply by using a mirror to trick the brain into "moving" the missing limb, allowing the pain to subside.

Sitting in a chair and holding a full-length mirror against his leg, Sopheak, 50, smiles self-consciously as some two dozen physical therapists gather around him.

It is their first mirror therapy training session at the Cambodia Trust, a rehabilitation charity for amputees in the central province of Kampong Chhnang.

But Sopheak visibly relaxes as he follows the instructions of visiting Canadian trainer

Stephen Sumner to wriggle his right toes and keep his eyes on his foot's reflected image, super-imposed on the missing one.

"It's a new sensation. It's strange but in a good way," the former soldier, who now works as a security guard, told AFP. "I see my leg in the mirror and I feel happy, like my mind is at ease."

Sumner explains that the reflection of the intact limb can fool the brain into "seeing" two healthy legs, allowing it to once again send command signals to the phantom leg -- signals that would previously come back distressed because the limb was missing.

The theory, which also works to ease phantom arms out of painful or cramped positions, was developed in 1995 by neuroscientist Vilayanur S. Ramachandran from the University of California, San Diego, named as one of the world's most influential people

by Time magazine in 2011.

But it only started taking off in the United States, Canada and Europe in the last few years -- its use boosted by soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with missing limbs, neuroscientist Eric Altschuler, a mirror therapy expert who works with Ramachandran, told AFP.

At the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, mirror therapy is now routinely offered to amputees.

The neurological trickery also reached a wider audience after it featured in a 2009 episode of "House", a popular US medical drama.

But it is still largely unknown in Cambodia, a small country with tens of thousands of amputees as a result of traffic accidents, disease and, in most cases, landmines left over from decades of civil war.

Sumner, who says his own bouts of phantom pain felt like "lightning bolts through my foot", is determined to spread the message.

Backed by the Canadian non-profit End The Pain Project, he is training dozens of physicians and amputees across Cambodia and, crucially in this impoverished nation, handing out free mirrors -- full-length ones for legs, half-length ones for arms.

Phantom pain is thought to affect around 80 percent of all amputees and there are no drugs that can cure it, but Sumner stressed that the mirror method was not a quick fix.



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China accuses US firm over child lead poisoning

SHANGHAI (AFP) - Authorities in Shanghai have accused US Fortune 500 battery maker Johnson Controls and several other companies of emitting excessive amounts of lead blamed for poisoning dozens of children.

The US giant denies a plant it owns was responsible for the pollution in the Chinese city's Kangqiao area, where 49 children, most of them aged between one and three, were diagnosed with lead poisoning in September.

A report posted on the Shanghai government's official microblog page blamed three companies for lead pollution and said at least two were directly responsible for the children's condition.

"An investigation found that Johnson Controls expanded its production scale without approval," the government said, adding the plant's lead emissions were excessive.

Two other companies -- Shanghai Xinmingyuan Automobile Parts Co Ltd and Shanghai Kangshuo Waste Recycling Co Ltd -- were also found to be polluting the environment with lead. All three plants have since been shut down.

"The link between children with excessive lead in their blood in Kangqiao and Johnson Controls' lead emissions is quite obvious and there is a definite link with Xin-

mingyuan's lead emissions," the government said.

Lead poisoning is considered hazardous, particularly to children, who can experience stunted growth and mental retardation.

Fraser Engerman, spokesman for Johnson Controls, denied the link.

"Through our monitoring and analysis of our plant's emissions data, we are confident that the plant was operating well below the levels specified by Chinese environmental regulations," he said in an email to AFP.

"Based on all available facts, Johnson Controls disagrees with any interpretation linking our plant's operation to elevated lead exposure in the Kangqiao area."

The other two companies refused to comment when contacted by AFP.

According to Shanghai authorities, three of the children are still in hospital, but they are getting better.

China's rapid industrialisation over the past 30 years has left the country with widespread environmental damage that has triggered numerous public health scares.

Last year, authorities in the eastern province of Zhejiang detained 74 people and suspended work at hundreds of factories after 172 people -- including 53 children -- fell ill with lead poisoning.

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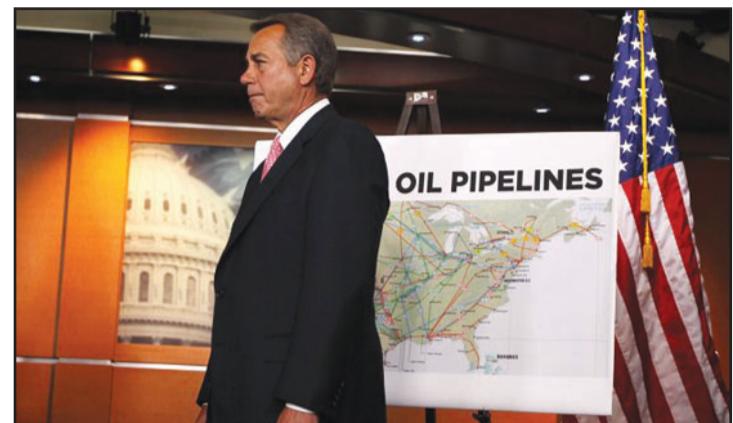
Part of Keystone XL oil pipeline to go ahead: company

OTTAWA (AFP) - TransCanada Corp announced Monday it would go ahead with construction of part of its Keystone XL oil pipeline that does not require US presidential approval, a stretch from the state of Oklahoma to the US Gulf Coast.

The company also said it will resubmit its proposal for the entirety of the pipeline from Canada that was rejected last month by US President Barack Obama, a move that sparked an election-year row over energy policy and the environment.

The new presidential permit application would include "an alternative route in Nebraska as soon as that route is selected," as well as an "already reviewed route" in Montana and South Dakota, TransCanada added.

Company president Russ Girling said he hoped the lengthy environmental review of the original project -- much of it unchanged in the new



Speaker of the House John Boehner stands next to a map of current oil pipelines during a news conference in January 2012 on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

bottleneck of oil in Cushing that has resulted in large part from increased domestic oil production, currently at an eight-year high."

Obama's office said in a statement that "moving oil from the Midwest to the world-class, state-of-the-art refineries on the Gulf Coast will modernize our infrastructure, create jobs, and encourage American energy production.

"We look forward to working with TransCanada to ensure that it is built in a safe, responsible and timely manner, and we commit to take every step possible to expedite the necessary Federal permits," the White House added.

Nokia eyes China in smartphone comeback push



(AFP) - Mobile phone giant Nokia on Monday looked to a launch in China and a camera-phone "revolution" to help it stage a comeback in the fiercely competitive smartphone market after a dismal 2011.

On the opening day of Mobile World Congress, with tens of thousands of industry executives gathered, the Finnish firm said it would push its flagship Lumia smartphone series, that run on the Windows platform, to the Asian giant.

Announcing that Windows phones have now been made compatible with Chinese mobile operating networks, Jo Harlow, who heads the group's smart devices division, said: "That means Nokia will bring Lumia to China."

Beyond eyeing the massive Chinese consumer market, the group also unveiled a new phone called 808 Pure View, which boasts a 41 megapixel sensor technology described by Harlow as a "revolution in smartphone imaging."

The phone, featuring Carl Zeiss optics, allows the user to capture an image before zooming in and cropping or resizing to show previously unseen details.

Its 41 megapixels are also far above the 8 or 10 megapixels available on the market today and even beats many stand-alone digital cameras.

While Nokia mobile handsets were once ubiquitous, the firm has been struggling to secure a foothold in the smartphone market, with Lumia so far failing to reverse falling sales in its overall smartphone business.

In the fourth quarter, Nokia sold just 19.6 million smartphones -- 31 percent fewer than in the same quarter of 2010 and far behind market-leader Apple, which reported 37 million units sold, and runner-up Samsung, with 36.5 million smartphone sales.



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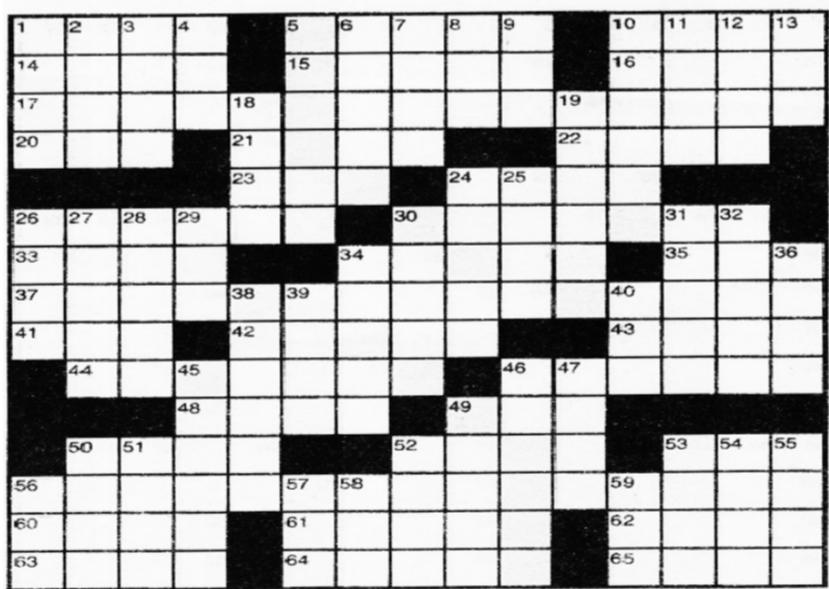
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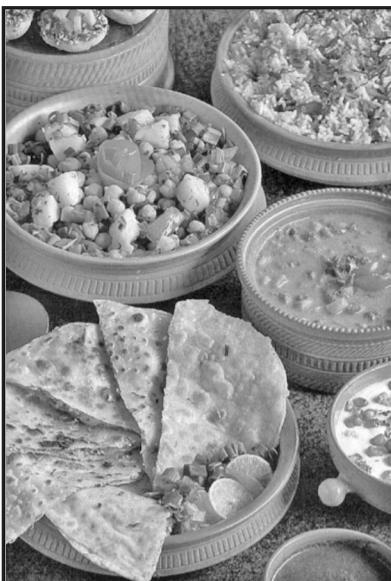
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17. Item on a colonial desk
20. Prepare, as the table
21. Farm locale of song
22. Sly gaze
23. Earlier than, to poets
24. Setting for "The Plague"
26. Longs for
30. Spray from a paint roller
33. Perry and Della's creator
34. Polished
35. Boy
37. Book tour souvenir
41. Saratoga, for one
42. Roof parts
43. Early Ron Howard role
44. Quisling
46. Joust figures
48. Peter the Great, e.g.
49. Falstaff's quaff
50. "Nonsense!"
52. "Young Frankenstein" character
53. Physicians' org.
56. Personalized collectibles
60. Regarding
61. In solitude
62. Former Iranian ruler
63. "A friend in





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Finance

German parliament roundly backs Greek lifeline

BERLIN (AFP) - German lawmakers voted overwhelmingly Monday to endorse a second multi-billion euro lifeline for Greece after Chancellor Angela Merkel warned failure to act would run incalculable risks.

Deputies voted by 496 to 90, with five abstentions, to approve the eurozone deal to hand Athens another 130 billion euros (\$175 billion) ahead of a key EU summit later this week to ratify the package.

"The risks of turning away from Greece now are incalculable," Merkel told the 591 lawmakers of the Bundestag lower house who had gathered for a special session to vote on the Greek package.

"No-one can assess what consequences would arise for the German economy, on Italy, Spain, the eurozone as a whole and finally for the whole world" of a Greek bankruptcy, she added.

But Merkel acknowledged that Greece faced a path ahead that was long and not without risk, adding: "That goes also for the success of the new programme. Nobody can give a 100-percent guarantee of success."

The Bundestag vote was not in doubt after two of the three opposition parties vowed to support it but it was done with some reluctance.

"It's not an easy decision," Gerda Hasselfeldt, of the Christian Social Union, the Bavarian sister party of Merkel's Christian Democratic Union, said, warning that solidarity was not "unlimited."

Despite the motion's approval, German scepticism about Greece remains.

"The Bundestag will in the foreseeable future be dealing with a third (rescue) package for Greece," said SPD member Peer Steinbrueck, a former finance minister, adding that to really stabilise Greece, strong growth was needed.

Prior to the vote, German Interior Minister Hans-Peter Friedrich had caused a stir by saying Greece should be given "incentives" to leave the eurozone so it could then better put its fiscal house in order.

While stressing he did not mean Greece should be kicked out of the 17-nation bloc, his comments to news weekly Der Spiegel fly in the face of the government's repeated wish for Greece to remain in the eurozone.

For Merkel, it was important on the domestic political front that she garnered enough support from within her own camp to pass the motion without the humiliation of having to rely on opposition votes.

The latest package for Athens, hammered out by eurozone finance ministers last week, will come from the eurozone's current bailout fund, the EFSF, and does not require the stumping up of fresh funding.

Buffet puts 1.4 bn euros into EU stocks

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US investment tycoon Warren Buffet said Monday that he had put 1.4 billion euros (\$1.9 billion) into European stocks at the end of 2011, calling shares in good companies in Europe cheap.

In a rare foray outside the US market, the mega-billionaire's Berkshire Hathaway investment group bought 175 million euros worth of shares in each of eight EU companies, which he declined to name.

"I just thought these eight companies were terrific companies that were cheap," he told CNBC television.

"They obviously were affected by the European crisis. In the end those eight companies I bought are going to be there 5,10, 20, 50 years from now."

He admitted he did not know the companies as well as well as Berkshire's huge investments like American Express or Wells Fargo.

"But I know them well enough... These companies will do fine whatever happens in Europe. And there will probably be plenty that happens in Europe."

Buffett, ranked number three last year on Forbes' list of the world's wealthiest men, has a fortune estimated at \$39 billion built on the investment success of Berkshire, which he founded and still actively runs at 81.

Berkshire has mostly confined its investments to US companies, so the push into European stocks is a new tack for Berkshire.

Buffett said that even after the runups in stockmarkets over the past year, he still viewed stocks in the United States and elsewhere as better valued compared to other investments.

"You have to invest in something... Equities are still cheap relative to any other asset class."

Meanwhile he declined to reveal whom his successor is at the investment giant. On the weekend he announced at the company's annual shareholders meeting that the Berkshire board had chosen a successor, as well as two back-up candidates.

"It could be tonight, it could be five years from now. The board of directors knows exactly who the person is the next morning," he told CNBC.



Current as of:
11/01/2011

Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A. USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles ANG	0.98	1.00	1.002
Canada CAD	1.750	1.770	1.790
Britiaian GBP	2.760	2.810	2.870
Switzerland CHF	1.9772	1.9844	1.9924
Netherlands EUR	2.3629	2.3845	2.4084
Sweden SEK	0.2601	0.2673	0.2753
Denmark DKK	0.3111	0.3183	0.3263
Norway NOK	0.3084	0.3156	0.3236
Japan JPY	219.17	221.17	223.40

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Boeing ridicules EU offer for aircraft subsidy talks

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Boeing on Monday ridiculed a European offer to negotiate an end to its aircraft subsidies trade war with the United States, citing the EU's failure to comply a WTO ruling against it.

Recent Airbus and European suggestions that differences could be ironed out in talks with no preconditions are "risible," Boeing spokesman Charlie Miller told journalists in a conference call.

"The whole case came about because the European Union would not negotiate with the United States" over claims that state subsidies to Airbus were illegal under World Trade Organization rules.

Washington was forced to file a WTO complaint in 2004 after certain European governments refused to give Brussels the mandate to negotiate the dispute, Miller said.

Their "sudden desire" to get around the table "is only too obvious when clearly they have lost," Miller said.

In May the Geneva-based WTO gave Brussels six months to comply with findings that some EU subsidies, including aid for Airbus to develop new aircraft -- "launch aid" -- incompatible with certain specific criteria.

In a filing made on the December 1 deadline, the European Union claimed that it had complied with the WTO ruling.

But Washington charges that the EU had not met the requirements of the WTO ruling, and on December 9 threatened to impose sanctions in retaliation, in a range of \$7-10 billion a year.

Oil prices slide

LONDON (AFP) - World oil prices sank on Monday as many traders took profits from nine-month highs struck last week on worries about the impact of heightened Iran tensions on tight global oil supplies.

The market was also dented by the stronger US currency, which makes dollar-priced crude more expensive for buyers using weaker currencies.

Crude futures had surged on Friday, with London Brent striking \$125.55 per barrel and New York crude hitting \$109.95 a barrel. Both peaks were last reached in early May 2011.

"The main driver at the moment is the ongoing tensions in Iran, with fears of supply disruptions sending crude prices soaring to a nine month high on Friday," said Simon Denham, boss of trading group Capital Spreads.



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Silent film 'The Artist' crowned with Oscar gold



The cast of "The Artist"

HOLLYWOOD (AFP) - Silent movie "The Artist" crowned its spectacular awards season success by winning five Oscars including the Best Picture prize at the 84th Academy Awards on Sunday.

The French-directed black-and-white film earned Oscars for best director for Michel Hazanavicius and best actor for Jean Dujardin, who played a silent movie era star whose career was torpedoed by the arrival of the "talkies."

"I love your country," Dujardin told the Hollywood au-

dience as he accepted his Oscar, the first for a French actor.

After thanking the film's cast and crew -- adding to "my wife, I love you" -- he broke into French, using an expletive and then saying, "Great! Thank you very much!"

In Paris, President Nicolas Sarkozy hailed the Oscar triumph as a sign of the "tremendous success of French cinema and quality cinema."

Martin Scorsese's 3D adventure "Hugo" -- which had the most nominations, with 11

compared to 10 for "The Artist" -- also garnered five prizes, but all came in technical categories.

Meryl Streep won best actress for her powerful turn as former British premier Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady," earning a standing ovation from the A-list Hollywood audience.

It was the third Oscar for the 62-year-old Streep and her first in three decades, underscoring her status as the pre-eminent actress of her generation.

Octavia Spencer took the prize for best supporting actress for her role as a black maid in the civil rights drama "The Help," receiving a standing ovation for her powerhouse performance.

Veteran Canadian actor Christopher Plummer, 82, crowned a six-decade acting career with a long-overdue Oscar, a best supporting actor trophy for his role in "Beginners" as an ailing widower who embraces his homosexuality.

Kissing his coveted golden statuette, he joked: "You're only two years older than me, darling -- where have you

been all my life?"

Hollywood's biggest and most glittering night had long been expected to be a battle between "Hugo" and "The Artist," two odes to film-making.

Other winners included the Johnny-Depp voiced "Rango," for best animated feature and Woody Allen for best original screenplay for "Midnight in Paris."

In the foreign language category, Iran's "A Separation" beat films from Belgium, Canada, Israel and Poland.

Its director Asghar Farhadi dedicated the award to Iranians "who despise hostility and resentment," and referred to current tension between Tehran and the West over the Islamic republic's suspect nuclear program.

Iranians took to the Internet and mobile phones to declare their pride and joy at their country's first Oscars win.

Only Iranians braving a ban on satellite television receivers were able to see the Oscars live. But they quickly launched an avalanche of electronic exchanges.

Scorsese was not the only legendary director in the mix -

- Allen was in the running for best picture honors for "Midnight in Paris," along with Steven Spielberg's "War Horse."

George Clooney and Brad Pitt both lost out to Dujardin, who had already won a slew of awards for his turn as suave George Valentin.

Clooney had downplayed his hopes of winning best actor before the show, saying on the red carpet: "I have a feeling in the best actor race you're going to hear someone speaking French."

The show was presented by a galaxy of stars, including last year's best actress and actor Natalie Portman and Colin Firth, Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz, Tom Hanks and Angelina Jolie.

Highlights included a breathtaking cinema-themed performance by Canadian dance troupe Cirque du Soleil, including rapid-fire acrobatics and tumbling across the stage and ceiling of the auditorium.

"Wow," said veteran host Billy Crystal, presenting the show for the ninth time. "I pulled a hamstring just watching that."

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Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too

be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner – daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island.

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SPORTS

Tennis: Djokovic tastes victory and defeat



World number one Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns to Cedrik-Marcel Stebe of Germany.

DUBAI (AFP) - World number one Novak Djokovic experienced the emotions of victory and defeat as he re-started his season at the Dubai Open with an unusual dual role on Monday.

Djokovic's 6-4, 6-2 win against Cedric-Marcel Stebe, a talented and improving young German, was a resourceful performance given his five-week absence from competition since his exhausting Australian Open triumph.

But it was preceded by a Djokovic defeat. That was his 20-year-old younger brother Marco, whom he was mentoring, and whose fate he seemed to experience almost as strongly as his own.

Djokovic the triple Grand Slam champion, experimented with some extra net attacks and different tactical ploys, and yet retained the capacity for a tighter focus after Stebe got him break point down at 1-2 in the second set.

But Djokovic the wild card entry was playing only his third match on the ATP Tour and was unable to do himself much justice during a 6-3, 6-2 loss to Andrey Golubev.

That may be a part consequence of spending much of last year sidelined after wrist surgery. But Marco also offered insights into the pressures of having such a famous sibling.

"There are a lot of positive and negative things about being his brother, you know," he said.

"Financially, you know, I have all I need and can get the coaches and the right practice environment. But everybody expects you to be like your brother, which is really tough to achieve."

Novak sympathized.

"He has to face the pressure of having the Djokovic surname," he said.

Novak was also in no doubt that playing was easier than coaching. "It was difficult for me to sit courtside," he said. "I have not done it too much."

"At least when I'm playing I know what's going on. But I was happy my brother got a wild card. He is not at his level yet, but he's getting there."

Novak Djokovic now has a day off before facing the winner between Omar Awadhy, a wild card from the UAE, and Sergiy Stakhovsky, the fierce-hitting Ukrainian who is capable of a much higher level than his current ranking in the seventies.

Today Roger Federer, the Grand Slam record-holder, will start against Michael Llodra, the runner-up at the Marseille Open on Sunday.

And Andy Murray, the first Briton since the 1930's to reach three Grand Slam finals, will face Michael Berrer, a qualifier from Germany, while Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the world number five from France, will play Marcos Baghatis, the former Australian Open runner-up from Cyprus.

Boxing: Klitschko out to make Mormeck his 50th knock-out



35, to postpone the fight which will be the 60th of his career.

Klitschko has not been beaten since April 2004 when he suffered a fifth round technical knock-out to Lamon Brewster in Las Vegas and Mormeck wants to break the Ukrainian's winning streak and take his titles.

"I know that I am underestimated against a bigger and heavier opponent," the 39-year-old Mormeck told AFP.

This will be Mormeck's fourth heavyweight bout and Klitschko has said it will be tough against a man who is considerably shorter than he is with the challenger measuring 181 cms, compared to Klitschko's height of 198 cms.

World champion Klitschko will defend his IBF, IBO, WBO and WBA titles against Mormeck, who stepped up from cruiserweight just over two years ago, in Dusseldorf.

The pair were scheduled to meet last December, but kidney stones forced Klitschko,

Chisora had also slapped Vitali in the pre-bout weigh-in before running away.

Wladimir says he expects things to stay peaceful, but is taking nothing for granted.

"We are only on Monday, things also started peacefully in the press conference between Vitali and Chisora," said the younger Klitschko, who also suffered from Chisora's boorish behaviour when he spat in his face.

Despite his threats to dethrone the champ, all bar three of Mormeck's 40 fights have been at the lighter weight including a technical knock-out at the hands of Haye at cruiserweight in 2007.

The Frenchman has still enjoyed 22 knock-outs in 36 victories, but has suffered four defeats in his career.

"Wladimir is a great boxer in every way, but I've been preparing for years for this moment," said Mormeck, who turns 40 in June.

Football: Liverpool stars want more after League Cup glory

LONDON (AFP) - Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard has challenged his team-mates to use their dramatic League Cup final win over Cardiff as a springboard to restore the club to former glories.

Gerrard lifted Liverpool's first silverware for six years at Wembley on Sunday as the Reds held their nerve to win 3-2 on penalties after a 2-2 draw.

It was hardly a vintage performance from Kenny Dalglish's side, who fell behind to their Championship

Mahan halts McIlroy march to No.1.... continued from page 16

They were both on the green in two at 17, but McIlroy, needing to win the hole to extend the match, left his 29-foot putt short. Mahan left his birdie attempt from 21 feet about a foot away and McIlroy conceded the tap-in to end it.

"I tried to claw myself back, but I left myself too much work," McIlroy said.

With his victory Mahan will move into the top 10 in the world rankings for the first time in his career. Mahan also added another elite WGC title to his resume, after his triumph at the 2010 Bridgestone Invitational.

He became only the sixth player to win multiple WGC

opponents in the first half and then failed to close out the victory after taking the lead through Martin Skrtel and Dirk Kuyt.

The penalty shoot-out was equally nerve-shredding for Liverpool as Gerrard and Charlie Adam missed the first two spot-kicks.

But Cardiff fared even worse and a miss from Gerrard's cousin -- Bluebirds defender Anthony Gerrard -- finally brought relief to 30,000 Liverpool fans packed into one

end of Wembley.

The first trophy of Dalglish's second spell as Liverpool manager is arguably the least significant of the prizes on offer to England's top clubs, but Gerrard and team-mate Craig Bellamy both believe the sweet taste of victory should leave the squad hungry for more.

Welsh forward Bellamy, who delivered an impressive performance after coming off the bench, knows the club's main aim this season is to qual-

ify for the Champions League and he reckons that target is still achievable.

The Reds are currently seven points behind fourth placed Arsenal with a game in hand and also have an FA Cup quarter-final against Stoke to come, so Bellamy is determined to ensure his team-mates don't rest on their laurels.

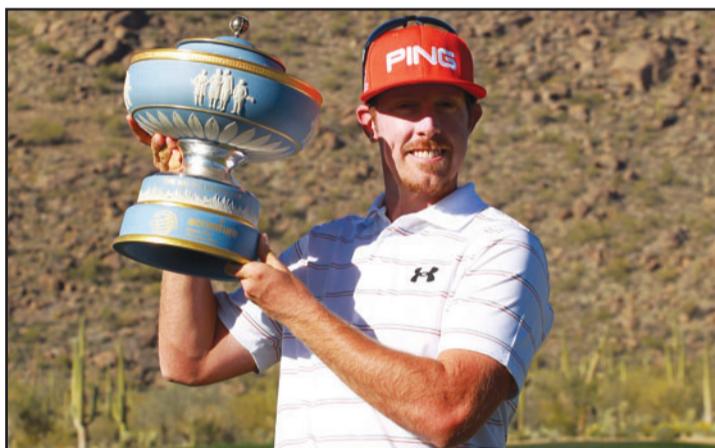
"The simple fact is there is pressure on the players at this club to perform at the highest level in every game and that is what we have to try and achieve.

"We will have to wait if it is

a springboard. Just off the top of my head, it wasn't much of a platform for Birmingham when they won the League Cup last season."

Cardiff-born Bellamy spent last season on loan with his hometown club in an unsuccessful attempt to fire the team into the Premier League and he was quick to express his sympathy for their painful defeat.

He made a point of shaking hands with every Cardiff player after the shoot-out and said: "It was a little bit emotional. I can only imagine the disappointment they felt.



Hunter Mahan celebrates with the Walter Hagen Cup after winning the championship.

titles, joining Woods, Australian Geoff Ogilvy, Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke, South African Ernie Els and Phil Mickelson.

McIlroy looked a different player from the one that rallied past Westwood in the marquee semi-final.

After Westwood seized the early advantage, winning three straight holes from the second to seize a 3 up lead, McIlroy won three of the next four to square the match, and won the ninth to make the turn 1 up.

A fortuitous bounce on a cart path at the 11th helped McIlroy halve the hole with a par. He then won the next two

holes to go 3 up, sinking a 25-foot birdie putt at 12.

At 13 Westwood's drive into the gallery found its way into the back of a woman spectator's sweater as she ducked to protect her head as McIlroy found the green.

Westwood pulled one back at 15 -- the first hole he'd won since the fourth, but two holes later McIlroy closed it out with a par at 17.

Mahan won the first two holes of his semi-final and never trailed en route to his victory over Wilson.

In the consolation final, Wilson bounced back to beat Westwood 1 up.

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Golf: Mahan halts McIlroy march to No.1 with Match Play win

MARANA (AFP) - Hunter Mahan beat Rory McIlroy 2 and 1 to win the World Golf Championships Match Play crown Sunday, denying the Northern Irishman's bid to claim the world number one ranking.

Mahan moved 4 up through 10 holes then held off the reigning US Open champion to become the first American to win the title since Tiger Woods in 2008.

McIlroy and Mahan had reached the title match with semi-final victories on Sunday morning. McIlroy roared back from 3 down to beat England's Lee Westwood 3 and 1, while Mahan never trailed in a 2 and 1 victory over fellow American Mark Wilson.

McIlroy admitted it was tough to bounce back after the tense battle with Westwood -- who also had a chance to supplant England's Luke Donald atop the world rankings by lifting the trophy.

"I knew that was going to be the toughest thing for me today, because I was getting myself up for that semi-final match," McIlroy said.

"That's not an excuse," he added. "He was solid as ever. He's a deserving champion."

After McIlroy and Mahan halved the first five holes, Mahan stuck a nine-iron two feet from the pin for a conceded birdie to win the par-three sixth.

That started a run of three straight holes won for the American, who went 4-up by winning the 10th hole, where his approach from 179 yards out nearly found the cup.

McIlroy didn't win a hole until the 11th, where he chipped in for eagle to lie 3 down.

He rolled in a birdie putt from within eight feet at 14 to trim Mahan's lead to 2 up.

After they halved 15 with birdies, Mahan had a chance to close it out at 16, where his putt for the title brushed the edge and didn't drop.

He made the three-footer coming back to halve the hole with McIlroy, whose birdie attempt from 38 feet had stopped less than two feet from the hole.

continues on page 15

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NBA: Durant powers West over East

ORLANDO (AFP) - Kevin Durant scored 36 points as Team West held on to beat Team East 152-149 in the 61st NBA All-Star Game on a night when Kobe Bryant broke Michael Jordan's career points record.

Durant, who was named most valuable player of the game, shot 14 of 25 from the field and finished with seven rebounds and three assists for the West at the Amway Center arena.

"This is a dream come true," Durant said. "These guys fed me the ball I am glad to be taking this trophy (MVP) back to Oklahoma City."

"I am happy I got MVP. Everything has been fun this weekend I am glad we came out on top."

The three-time all-star Durant got offensive support from teammates Blake Griffin, who had 22 points and eight rebounds, and Bryant who finished with 27 points to

surpass Jordan for the most career all-star points.

Four-time all-star MVP Bryant vaulted past Oscar Robertson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar before getting the record-setting points. He passed Jordan's previous mark of 262 points by finishing off a dunk in the third quarter.

Bryant was making his 14th straight all-star appearance which tied him with Jerry West, Karl Malone, and former Laker teammate Shaquille O'Neal for the most consecutive all-star berths in league history.

In last year's showcase in Los Angeles, hometown hero Bryant scored 37 points in the West's 148-143 win over the East at Staples Center arena.

Eight-time all-star LeBron James finished with 36 points, seven assists and six three pointers for the East who rallied in the fourth to make a game of it on Sunday.

The West had a commanding 88-69 point lead at the half

and led 124-112 at the end of the third but the East, behind the three-point shooting of James, who made six of eight attempts from beyond the arc, battled back.

Deron Williams and Dwyane Wade both missed three-point attempts in the final seconds that could have given the East a lead or sent the game into overtime.

"They beat us up all game and we wanted to make a game out of it," James said of the late rally. "I had a key turnover when we had opportunity to tie game and so I am mad about that."

"But it was a great weekend. All-star weekend was a great success and I am happy to be a part of it."

James was the MVP of the 2006 and 2008 all-star games and he was playing alongside Miami Heat teammate Wade who was MVP in 2010. Wade finished with 24 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the East.